

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

32

CONFIDENTIAL

CORRECTION ISSUED:

Action

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AIR

FROM: BONN - CORRECTED COPY

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 2324, APRIL 16, NOON

PRIORITY

SENT NIACT BERLIN 793; REPEATED INFORMATION PRIORITY DEPARTMENT  
2324, LONDON 600, PARIS 799, MOSCOW 276, USAF (ADVN) 48,  
CINCUSAFE 426, CINCUSAREUR 546.

PARIS ALSO PASS USRO, CINCEUR, THURSTON, WEST

REQUEST US CHIEF CONTROLLER MAKE FOLLOWING WRITTEN PROTEST  
SOVIET COUNTERPART SOONEST:

QUOTE

I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PROTEST THE DELIBERATE,  
UNWARRANTED AND DANGEROUS HARASSMENT OF A USAF C-130 CARGO  
AIRCRAFT FLYING THE SOUTH CORRIDOR TO AND FROM BERLIN ON APRIL 15  
THE SOVIET ELEMENT OF THE BERLIN AIR SAFETY CENTER WAS PROPERLY  
NOTIFIED OF THE FLIGHTS IN THE CUSTOMARY MANNER. NEVERTHELESS,  
SOVIET FIGHTER AIRCRAFT HARASSED THE UE TRANSPORT BY PERFORMING  
DANGEROUS MANEUVERS AND FORMATION FLYING WITH A COMPLETE  
DISREGARD FOR SAFETY. THE SOVIET FIGHTERS FLEW DANGEROUSLY  
CLOSE AND AT TIMES WITHIN 12 YARDS OF THE AIRCRAFT.

THE DELIBERATE HARASSMENT OF THIS AIRCRAFT CONSTITUTES A  
FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF FLIGHT SAFETY IN THE CORRIDORS. WE  
MUST AGAIN INSIST THAT THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TAKE APPROPRIATE  
ACTION TO INSURE THAT FLIGHTS OPERATED THROUGH THE CORRIDORS IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH THE RIGHTS ESTABLISHED BY QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT  
WILL NOT BE SUBJECTED TO DANGEROUS AND UNWARRANTED HARASSMENT.  
WE WILL HOLD THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY  
CONSEQUENCES STEMMING FROM WILLFUL DISREGARD OF FLIGHT SAFETY  
IN THE CORRIDORS.

UNQUOTE.

BRUCE

Correction made CONFIDENTIAL

MAJ MLJ/23

by RM/R

PERMANENT

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

AND 877-419

NARA, Date

10/9/54

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